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**Stern et al.**

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(Continued)

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**

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See application file for complete search history.

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(56)

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This patent is subject to a terminal dis-  
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(57)

**ABSTRACT**

An apparatus for transcutaneously treating tissue beneath a  
skin surface using radiofrequency energy. The apparatus  
includes an electrode assembly supported by a handpiece.  
The electrode assembly includes an electrode configured to  
transfer the radiofrequency energy through the skin surface  
to the tissue. A force sensor, which is located in the hand-  
piece, is configured to detect an amount of force applied by  
the electrode against the skin surface.

**14 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**

